

130 killed in four days of South African unrest

JOHANNESBURG, July 6: Rival black groups fought a virtual war in townships around South Africa, bringing the death toll in four days of carnage to at least 130 people, police said today, reports AFP.

Troop reinforcements flooded into Thokoza and Kathlehong townships, south of Johannesburg, where at least 69 people have been shot or burnt to death in running battles since Friday.

The carnage erupted Friday, when Thokoza township dwellers clashed with residents of single-sex migrant labour hostels, barely hours after South Africa's democracy negotiators set the seal on April 27, 1994, as the date for the country's first non-racial election.

The fighting flared through to neighbouring Kathlehong and

intensified Monday when residents laid siege to a hostel.

By mid-day today the areas were quieter but tense as police moved through the townships and collected 36 bodies, victims of the previous night's fighting.

Sporadic gunbattles throughout Monday escalated sharply after night fall. In one of the worst attacks, five people were killed and two people were injured when gunmen ambushed a minibus taxi on a bridge leading into Kathlehong.

At least 14 houses were razed, cars were set alight and streets were barricaded with boulders and burning tyres, criminals took advantage of the chaos, looting homes and shops, police said.

Train services were halted between the city and the townships and police declared roads

in the area a non-zone for motorists.

Police spokeswoman Lieutenant Janine Smith said the fighting appeared to be between the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and the African National Congress (ANC) supporters battling for territory in Kathlehong and Thokoza.

3 Indians killed

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brought to Dhaka. Hamif's body was sent to his village home in Chandpur for burial.

Relatives of the Indian citizens have already arrived in Dhaka and arrangements are being made to send the bodies home, Indian High Commission sources said.

The bus involved in the accident has been seized by the Choudagram Police.



Construction labourers in the city yesterday wait for their turn to be hired for the day. —Star photo

Buckingham Palace — right place for their protest!

LONDON, July 6: Fourteen demonstrators were arrested today after climbing over the Buckingham Palace wall in an attempt to convince Queen Elizabeth to recognise the sovereignty of a US-Indian reservation, reports AFP.

A Palace spokesman said the demonstrators—12 women and two men—were arrested around 0925 GMT (10:25 am local time) after climbing over a wall topped with barbed wire.

An organisation unknown to authorities, the Women's Nuclear Test Bank Network, later claimed responsibility for the trespassing attempt by sending a fax to the Press Association news agency.

It said that the aim of its action was to persuade the Queen to recognise the sovereignty of the Shoshone Indian Reservation located near a US-British nuclear testing site in the State of Nevada in the USA.

The organisation said that 23 British nuclear tests conducted there have brought poverty and sickness on Indians living in the region.

"Buckingham Palace, as a residence of the Queen, seems the right place to talk about sovereignty," the faxed communiqué said.

The Queen was inside the palace when the incident occurred.

The Midnight File

Ghali orders Aideed's arrest

UNITED NATIONS, July 6: United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has branded Mohamed Farah Aideed a danger to peacekeepers and civilians and stressed the need for the Somali warlord's arrest, reports AFP.

Nigerian gov't threatens to dissolve political parties

LAGOS, July 6: Nigeria's military government has threatened to dissolve civilian political parties unless they accept the scrapping of the June 12 presidential polls, a party spokesman said today, reports Reuters.

Amos Idakula, national publicity secretary of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), whose candidate claims to have won the elections, said the government at a meeting in Abuja had offered fresh presidential elections or an interim national government.

Over a dozen people hurt in IRA bomb blast

BELFAST (Northern Ireland), July 6: A big IRA bomb exploded in a predominantly Protestant town in Northern Ireland on Monday, injuring more than a dozen people and causing extensive damage, police said.

Malaria, AIDS

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health services.

Despite these successes, developing countries are still suffering from higher infant mortality rate, diarrhoea, malnutrition, tuberculosis and pregnancy-related deaths, the report says.

Tobacco-related deaths from heart disease and cancers alone are likely to double by the first decade of the next century to two million a year, if the present smoking pattern continues.

Earlier, in a pre-publication press conference, local World Bank officials said that Bangladesh needs more allocation in the national budget for achieving the goals of basic health care for the mass people.

"Bangladesh has made significant progress over the years in the health sector but more allocation is required to reach the goal," Dr. Philip Gowers, chief of the population and health unit of the World Bank Resident Mission, Dhaka, told reporters. The health sector's allocation in the current budget is 5.8 per cent.

Ms. Jee-Peng Tan, senior economist at the World Bank, head office in Washington, briefed newsmen in Dhaka about the report on Thursday last.

The report, 16th in a series, suggests a three-pronged approach to health policy for governments in developing and former socialist countries.

These approaches are: to foster an environment that enables households to improve health; to improve government spending on health; and to promote diversity and competition.

The suggestive reforms could translate into longer and healthier lives for people around the world and especially for more than one billion poor. By adopting the recommended public health measures, developing countries could reduce their burden of disease by 25 per cent, it asserts.

The 330-page report says that opposition to reforms come from many quarters like the drug companies, equipment manufacturers, urban elites and groups of health professionals, but despite these obstacles developing

Examinees assault 7 invigilators in Feni

FENI, July 6: Seven invigilators of two HSC examination centres in the district were beaten up and three of them thrown into a pond by students today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said three teachers of the Iqbal Memorial College in Daganbhuiyan thana were attacked and assaulted by the examinees of Fulgazi centre after they prevented the adoption of unfair means in the examination on the Civics first paper.

The teachers — Shah Alam, Abul Kashem and N Alauddin — were dragged out by 10 to 15 examinees and thrown into a nearby pond after a severe beating.

Local people rescued the teachers and got them admitted to the Fulgazi Health Complex.

Four other teachers of the Chhaganaiya Government College were attacked and injured critically by some unidentified people while they were returning by a bus from the Parshuram examination centre at about 1:30 pm.

The teachers were identified as Prof Shah Alam Majumder, M Shahidullah, M Ismail Hossain and Sukamol Sen-gupta.

Some 25 people halted the bus near Chitholia High School and swooped on the teachers with lathis, kiriches and rods.

They beat the teachers mercilessly for about 20 minutes. Five other passengers were also injured while others in the bus fled the scene.

Re-lending rates

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With the cuts in rates, the future projects of the public agencies would have to change to operate profitably as they will be having less debt liabilities.

Sources said a reduction in the rates this year would be possible because of a low inflation rate, quoted at about three per cent.

The macro-economic management in the past years has already started yielding its good results," another source added. "And if losses could be lowered, the country would see another better year of management."

The government in 1992-93 had received an estimated 1008.4 million US dollar as loans from donors, which included \$69.6 million dollar in project loans.

The government gets the loans on soft term basis at an average interest rate of 1.5 per cent.

The total aid pledged by the donors at the Pairs Club meeting last April was 2.15 billion US dollar.

Menon-Mannan row

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Way Company after observing all rules and formalities of international tenders.

Giving a detailed background of the tender and tenderer for the construction of the boarding bridges, the State Minister told the House that the Z-Way Company had fulfilled all the required specifications and was given the work order for its lowest bid of Tk 6.44 crore.

Earlier, in his call attention notice, Menon alleged that the Chinese Machineries Corporation, despite being the lowest bidder, was not given the work order by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Menon claimed the government will be deprived of about Taka one crore because of irregularities regarding the work order and urged the chair to send the notice to the Standing Committee for scrutiny of the matter under rule 71 (1) of the Rules of Procedure.

The House, however, witnessed an uproar over certain remarks of State Minister Abdul Mannan about Rashed Khan Menon. More than a dozen MPs stood on their feet in protest when the State Minister alluded to "business interest" of Menon in bringing the call attention notice.

"Certainly there is a business interest of Menon, himself behind it," said Mannan about the call notice, opening an uncheduled debate in the House.

Responding to the State Minister's remark, Menon asked Abdul Mannan to prove the allegation or else resign.

"You must prove that my business interest is involved in bringing the notice, otherwise you will have to resign," said Menon.

The Workers' Party leader

said: "We do not belong to the party of thieves. I don't need to test my honesty with those who were imprisoned on corruption charges."

The House proceeding suffered further when the Information Minister stood on his feet to defend the State Minister for Civil Aviation after the Deputy Speaker's ruling.

Noise and shouting marked the proceedings when Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda said the notice should be sent to the Standing Committee to investigate if there is any business interest affecting Menon in this matter.

This led to a debate when acting Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad, Barrister Maudud Ahmed, Mattur Rahman Nizami, Suranjit Sengupta and Sudhangshu Shekhar Halder took the floor protesting the remark.

They protested the Information Minister's remark questioning Menon's integrity, particularly after the Deputy Speaker's ruling, and demanded the Minister's remarkable expunged from the proceedings.

Deputy Leader of the House Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury and Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mian also took part in the uncheduled debate, stressing the need for maintaining the Rules of Procedure by all members for smooth functioning of the House.

Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury pointed out that allegations are now being raised frequently questioning the integrity of the ministers. Untrue allegations must offend a member or a minister, he said, and suggested the House enact a law so that no member can raise any allegation without specific evidence and documents.

Seminar on Bosnia

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Terming the atrocities on the Bosnian Muslims as the most flagrant violation of human rights in the contemporary world, he called on the international community to take firm and resolute steps to immediately stop the genocide.

He said while the international community remained engaged in endless conferences for a political solution, the aggressor has been consolidating its illegal military expansion. The Foreign Minister urged the world community to treat all parties involved more evenly-handedly.

He noted Bangladesh's efforts in various international forums, including the United Nations, the OIC and the Non-Aligned Movement, to bring about a just settlement to the Bosnian crisis.

The international community will have to show its political will to implement these and other resolutions in order to end the atrocities now being committed in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rahman said.

Organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Islamic Thought (BIIT), a number of papers were presented at the seminar, entitled: The Bosnian Crisis: Different Dimension, while a resolution was adopted following discussions. Dr. M Shamsur Ali, Chairman of BIIT and Vice Chancellor of the Bangladesh Open University, also addressed the opening session.

Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Bayat in his speech said strong and effective measures were necessary from the OIC and the international community for the protection of the Muslims in Bosnia before it was

too late.

Ahmed Farid called for co-ordinated actions by the Islamic Ummah for saving the Muslims from annihilation and urged the OIC for credible action programme in this regard. He also gave a horrifying account of the torture and genocide in Bosnia and the cynical indifference by the international community to check the situation.

The business session was chaired by S M Al-Hussainy, former chairman of the Public Service Commission.

The key-note papers presented in the seminar are: 'A Historical Overview by Professor K M Mohsin, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Dhaka University; Bosnia-Herzegovina: A Human Rights Tragedy by Dr. Ashraful Hasan, Department of International Relations, DU, Bosnian Crisis: Current Issues by Alamgir Mohiuddin, Editor, The New Nation and Abuses of Women and Children in Bosnia by Dr S Sajjad Hussain, a noted educationist.

A five-point resolution, adopted at the seminar, deplored the UN policy of not discriminating between aggressor and victim in respect of the arms embargo, thus denying the right of self-defence to the besieged Bosnian Muslims.

Condemning attempts to partition Bosnia-Herzegovina, it regretted the relative apathy and aloofness with which Muslim states themselves have so far been content to approach the Bosnian problem. The resolution called upon the UN to immediately lift the arms embargo on Bosnia.

The seminar was rounded off with prayers for an early restoration of peace in the region.

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'Editors should be professional journalists'

Editors of newspapers should be appointed from among the full time professional journalists, reports BSS.

This recommendation was made by Bangladesh Press Council (BPC) at its general council session held here yesterday with BPC Chairman Justice Sultan Hossain Khan in the chair.

The session also enunciated a 9-point code of conduct regarding the ethics of working journalists in the exercise of their professional responsibilities.

JS body

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maintained.

Speaker Shakh Razzak Ali rejected the idea of reviewing the proposed terms of reference, saying he had done enough home work on the subject.

The Speaker also provided the House with a 12-page set of arguments on the terms of reference he had proposed.

"Since there was no consensus on my proposal, the issue has died a natural death," the Speaker told the House before adjourning the proceedings at 11:47 last night.

Parliament will resume at 4 this afternoon.

Islamic varsity teachers begin work stoppage

KUSHTIA, July 6: Teachers of the Islamic University today began an indefinite work stoppage to protest the alleged manhandling of some of their colleagues by activists of the Islami Chhatra Shibir on the campus yesterday, reports UNB.

The Islamic University Teachers Association (IUTA), in an emergency meeting on Monday, decided on the work stoppage from today, demanding punishment for those responsible for the incident and a violence-free campus.

They said that the strike would continue till their demands were met.

25 hurt as AL, BNP activists clash in Pabna

PABNA, July 6: At least 25 people were injured, six with bullets, in a fierce clash between supporters of the Awami League and the BNP at a village in Sadar thana today, reports UNB.

Police said the two groups were locked in a gunbattle at about 9:30 am after Awami League activists allegedly stormed 15 houses of BNP supporters at Kumilli village Monday night.

Witnesses said a group of Awami League supporters led by Shahidul Islam launched the attack following a dispute during a football match on Monday afternoon.

Police action on JSD rally: 7 injured

By DU Correspondent

At least seven leaders and activists of the JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League (B-K) were injured when police baton-charged a demonstration rally in front of the Jattya Press Club around noon yesterday.

The BCL (B-K) later staged demonstrations near the Home Ministry to protest the arrest of its leaders at the Rajshahi University Sunday.

Earlier they brought out a procession on the Dhaka University campus which carried black flags.

Witnesses said, when police halted the procession near the Home Ministry the demonstrators turned violent and damaged parked vehicles.

In all nine vehicles were damaged during the clash.

Dhaka to be 17th megacity by 2000

Dhaka will be one of the 20 most populous cities of the world by the turn of the century, says the UNFPA's World Population Report-1993, reports UNB.

The report reveals that 12 cities in Asia will be in the list of top 20 megacities by the year 2000. Among the megacities there will be only three metropolitan cities of the developed countries, according to the report.

The population of Dhaka, projected as the 17th megacity, will stand at 1.22 crore by the end of the century.

Mexico city will be the most populous and its population will reach at about 2.56 crore, which will be followed by Sao Paulo in Brazil 2.21 crore, Tokyo in Japan 1.90 crore, Shanghai in China 1.70 crore, New York in USA 1.68 crore, Calcutta and Bomba in India 1.57 crore and 1.54 crore respectively. Chinese capital Beijing 1.40 crore, Los Angeles 1.39 crore and Jakarta in Indonesia 1.37 crore.

The other most populous metropolitan cities are Delhi (1.32 crore), Buenos Aires (1.29 crore), Lagos (1.29 crore), Tianjin (1.27 crore), Seoul (1.27 crore), Rio De Janeiro (1.25 crore), Cairo (1.18 crore), Metro Manila (1.18 crore) and Karachi (1.17 crore).

A phenomenon of the last 20 years has been the growth of megacities in developing countries, says the UNFPA report released at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday as elsewhere in the world.

Seven of the 10 largest cities were in the developing

Clinton Miyazawa - trade talks

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national issues being pushed into the background by mounting economic woes in all the world's richest industrialised countries.

Compounding the problems for other arriving leaders was Miyazawa's current lame duck status.

Observers said he was in no position to cut any far-reaching deal as he campaigns for July 18 elections in which polls show his long-ruling Liberal Democratic Party is likely to lose its parliamentary majority.

An opinion poll released here Tuesday showed Clinton highly unpopular in Japan for a US President, increasing the risk that any agreement with his involving concessions from Japan could hurt Miyazawa politically.

Earlier, European Commission Vice President Leon Brittan said he had pressed the Japanese Prime Minister at a midday meeting to cut Japan's trade surplus with the continent.

We made it quite clear that we do not believe in managed trade, Brittan said. We do think Japan's balance of payments as a proportion of GNP (Gross National Product) is a macro-economic problem for Japan and

Cabinet meets

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judges in keeping with the enhancement of their pay which came into effect from July, 1991.

The cabinet approved the draft of a bill to be introduced in Parliament for the enactment of a new law named the Financial Institution Act-1993. The bill envisages proper management and smooth running of the non-banking financial institutions besides ensuring discipline in their various operations.

The cabinet was apprised of the state of implementation of the cabinet decisions during the last quarter of the current year.

Shamshernagar Airport to be operated on commercial basis

The Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Tourism, Abdul Mannan, yesterday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government had a plan to operate the Shamshernagar Airport at Moulvibazar on commercial basis, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from Mohammad Abdus Shahid (AL-Moulvibazar) the State Minister said the Shamshernagar airport would be operated soon subject to the procurement of STOL (short take off and landing) aircraft.

40m people

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Middle East about 75,000, Eastern Europe and central Asia about 50,000, East Asia and the Pacific about 25,000 and Australia 25,000.

The threat of AIDS may encourage the use of condoms, which may have its own effect on fertility. On the other hand, AIDS contributes to social instability, insecurity and poverty — conditions which typically accompany high fertility.

Even medium-sized urban centres experience difficulties in providing for ever growing populations.

Clinton Miyazawa - trade talks

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the rest of the world.

The Prime Minister, said Brittan, "made no promise to take specific action, but to be fair, he said he recognised the gravity of the situation."

The G7 countries have dampened expectations of a breakthrough on trade here, suggesting they would settle for a commitment to conclude the Uruguay round of trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) this year.

Clinton has in recent days backed away from his earlier tough talk on his country's stubbornly high trade deficit

with Japan, stressing instead the need for a multilateral attack on unemployment, which remains high in North America and is nearing post-war record levels in western Europe.

An official travelling with Clinton as he flew to his first-ever G7 Summit said the US administration was optimistic that some sort of general agreement on market access under global trade rules could be reached in Tokyo.

But, the official added, if we don't get it, it's not crippling. It would not be a disaster.

Japanese Labour Minister Masakuni Murakami said Miyazawa would back Clinton

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They beat the teachers mercilessly for about 20 minutes. Five other passengers were also injured while others in the bus fled the scene.

countries including Chile, South Korea, Malawi, Tunisia and Zimbabwe have shown that major reform is possible.

The World Bank observes that although the donors have expressed a strong commitment to human resource development in recent years, the share of aid for health has reduced drastically.

The bank report, therefore, recommends a 50 per cent increase of aid during the next five years — from four billion to six billion US dollars a year — to cover the transitional costs of health policy reform and to control AIDS.

For Bangladesh the report says the bank along with ten bilateral agencies are contributing 440 million dollars to the five-year Fourth Population and Health Project, and the government is providing 165 million dollar.

The United Nations Population Fund, the WHO and the Unicef are supplying project management, procurement and technical assistance, the report explains.

N'ganj Nirmul Body office ransacked

NARAYANGANJ, July 6: The district Ghatik Dalal Nirmul Committee office was ransacked and seized allegedly by the Awami League's youth wing activists today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said, a group of youths belonging to Jubo League, whose motive could not be known, stormed the Nirmul Committee office, which is also the office of BSD district unit.

They also pulled down the signboard of the Nirmul Committee office and place a banner of Jubo League.

The youths, however, went away when police forced them to vacate the office in the evening.

District BSD leaders said a group of Jubo League supporters suddenly attacked the office and tried to take control of it.

District Jubo League President Alhaj Kabir Ahmed, however, denied involvement of his organisation in the attack of Nirmul office.

City shopowners postpone strike

The Federation of Dhaka Metropolitan Shopowners Association has postponed its strike scheduled for today but extended support to the August 11 nation-wide strike called by the Federation of Bangladesh Shop Owners Associations, reports UNB.

Re-lending rates

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With the cuts in rates, the future projects of the public agencies would have to change to operate profitably as they will be having less debt liabilities.

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